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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
THE WEEK	343
THE FALL OF PORT ARTHUR	346
LEADING ARTICLES:—	
The State of Russia	347
The Defence of India	348
TOWARDS A SOCIAL POLICY. XI.—Town Development	349
MIDDLE ARTICLES:—	
The Vanishing Curtsey. By W. H. Hudson	351
The New Grove. By Ernest Newman	352
MIDDLE ARTICLES (*continued*)—	
Mr. Yeats's New Play. By Maurice Joy	353
Watts and Sandys: The Academy Winter Exhibition	353
PERSONS AND POLITICS. By H. W. Massingham	355
CORRESPONDENCE	356
The Place of Campion (Professor Saintsbury); Mr. Massingham and M. Syveton (F. Y. Eccles).	
LITERATURE:—	
Causerie of the Week: Church and King. By D. C. Lathbury	357
The Humanity of Bunyan. By Professor Herford	358
Verrocchio	360
Mr. Haldane, List, and Cobden. By F. W. Hirst	361
Poetry and Verses	362
Criticism and Fiction	363
NOTES ON TRADE AND FINANCE	364
BOOKS RECEIVED	v.

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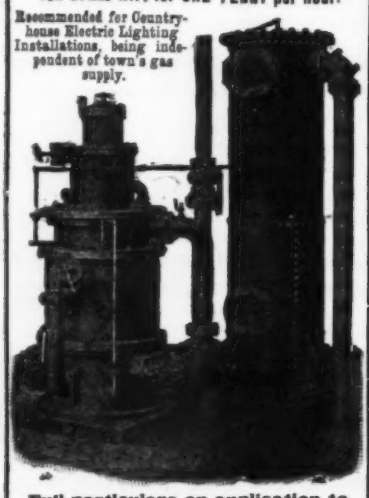

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An extraordinary general meeting of the Securities Insurance Company, Limited, was held on Wednesday at Winchester House, Old Broad-street, E.C., under the presidency of Mr. Alfred Shepherd, W.S. (the chairman of the company).

Mr. J. Robbie Whamond (manager and secretary) having read the notice convening the meeting,

The Chairman said: The Securities Insurance Company was incorporated for the purpose of carrying out a scheme of arrangement whereby the claims of the creditors of the old company were postponed until December 31 last. The scheme also provided that the uncalled capital of the company should be called up by degrees. These were the two principal provisions in the scheme, and the end of the moratorium having now arrived, it is necessary for this company to go into liquidation in order that the assets of the company, which have been nursed during this time, should be distributed among the creditors in accordance with the scheme of arrangement. At the last general meeting of this company I mentioned that the directors had had under consideration whether it would be practicable to present any scheme to the shareholders and creditors with a view to continuing this company, but that, after the fullest consideration, they had come to the conclusion that there were not sufficient grounds on which they could recommend such a course. The directors are still of that opinion, and accordingly this meeting has been called for the purpose of putting the company into liquidation with a view to the distribution of its assets among the creditors. It is possible that the liquidator, in the course of his liquidation, and after he has paid what dividend he may find the assets will enable him to do, may come to a different conclusion from that of the directors in regard to any postponement of further payments; but that is a matter which can be left for the liquidator himself to determine. I do not intend to say anything further today, but to formally move the resolution before you, and in doing so I would only say that we have, in the resolution, proposed Mr. Whamond to be liquidator of the company. When the company was last in liquidation the Official Receiver in Companies Liquidations was the liquidator, and Mr. Whamond was at that time an official of the Board of Trade. He in that way became familiar with all the details of the previous liquidation, and during the years in which this company has existed he has kept himself up in every detail and given every satisfaction to the directors; and I am sure you will agree with me in saying that we cannot get anyone better able to undertake the liquidation of this company speedily and efficiently than Mr. Whamond, and I hope you will agree with the directors in thinking that Mr. Whamond is the proper person to be appointed liquidator. (Hear, hear.) With these remarks I formally move the resolution: "That the company be wound up voluntarily, and that John Robbie Whamond, of 3, Crown-court, Old Broad-street, London, E.C., chartered accountant, be and he is hereby appointed liquidator for the purposes of such winding up."

Mr. A. E. S. Guinness seconded the motion.

The Chairman invited questions, but there was no response. He then said: According to the scheme of arrangement and the articles of association of this company, all policyholders are entitled to come to general meetings of the company, and to vote. There is, however, possibly a question in law as to whether a special resolution, such as is now proposed for the purpose of putting the company into liquidation, can properly be given by a vote of the creditors. In order to obviate any question on this point, I would ask the gentlemen present, in the first instance, to vote as a whole—that is to say, I want the feeling of the meeting, both as regards the policyholders and shareholders on this resolution. I will then take the feeling of the shareholders alone, so that we shall be able to satisfy the Court that the resolution was carried by the shareholders themselves, as well as by both policyholders and shareholders together.

The motion was then put to the meeting as a whole, and carried unanimously, and was then submitted separately to the shareholders, with the same result.

The Chairman intimated that there would be a confirmatory meeting, of which notice would be sent out as early as possible, and that upon the resolution being confirmed it was intended to apply to the Court for a supervision order.

Mr. Robert Manuel moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, remarking that he did not think they ought to separate without recording their appreciation of his services.

Mr. Morson seconded the motion, and said he would also like to testify to the ability which had been shown during the last eight years by the board and also by the manager, Mr. Whamond.

The vote was unanimously accorded, and the proceedings terminated.

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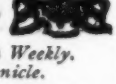

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